

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 02378 061610Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 H-01  
/054 W  
-----062058Z 085907 /66

R 061544Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6320

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 2378

E.O. 11652: NGDS  
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, TS  
SUBJECT: GOT GIVES GO-AHEAD TO LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS  
OF MAN

REF: TUNIS A-56, JUNE 17, 1976; TUNIS 2299

1. GOT HAS ADVISED BACKERS OF THE LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS  
OF MAN, A "LIBERAL" ASSOCIATED GROUP THAT BEGAN SEEKING  
OFFICIAL AUTHORIZATION IN MAY 1976, THAT IT WOULD SOON  
RECEIVE NECESSARY PERMISSION TO BEGIN FUNCTIONING PUBLICLY.  
LEAGUE WAS CONSTITUTED LAST YEAR WITH A 15-MEMBER  
"PROVISIONAL COMMISSION" BUT NEVER RECEIVED MINISTRY OF  
INTERIOR RECOGNITION. DESTOURIAN SOCIALIST PARTY SET UP  
A RIVAL HUMAN RIGHTS LEAGUE AND PROPOSED TO "LIBERALS"  
THAT THEY JOIN RANKS WITH PSD GROUP IF THEY WANTED  
OFFICIAL RECOGNITION. "LIBERALS" REFUSED.

2. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, GOT HAS NOW RELENTED AND  
TOLD "LIBERALS" THEY COULD GO AHEAD WITH LEAGUE IF THEY  
WOULD ACCEPT 7 NEW MEMBERS ON THEIR PROVISIONAL COMMISSION  
DRAWN FROM PSD HUMAN RIGHTS LEAGUE. "LIBERALS" WERE GIVEN  
OPTION OF CHOOSING WHOM THEY WISHED AND THEY HAVE ACCEPTED  
CONDITION.

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3. OUR "LIBERAL" CONTACTS BELIEVE THAT VARIOUS FACTORS HAVE  
INFLUENCED GOT TO RECOGNIZE LEAGUE, INCLUDING TAHAR  
BELKHODJA'S INCREASINGLY OPEN SUPPORT FOR POLITICAL  
LIBERALIZATION, A PETITION SIGNED BY OVER 200 TUNIS  
PROFESSIONALS DEMANDING MORE SCRUPULOUS OBSERVANCE OF  
NORMAL LEGAL PROCEDURES AND RECENT MENTION IN SERIES OF  
LE MONDE ARTICLES ON TUNISIA (SEE TUNIS 1945) OF LEAGUE

AND ITS PROBLEMS WITH GOT. "LIBERALS" CONVINCED, HOWEVER,  
THAT USG STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE BEEN KEY FACTOR  
INFLUENCING GOT WHICH DOES NOT WISH TO JEOPARDIZE ITS  
GOOD RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND HAS TAKEN POSITIVE MOVE IN  
HUMAN RIGHTS AREA TO SHOW ITS SYMPATHY FOR OUR CONCERNS.  
OULCAHY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TUNIS02378  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TUNIS A-56, 77 TUNIS 2299  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2876921  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOT GIVES GO-AHEAD TO LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN  
**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, TS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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